



St. Francis Newsletter

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McArthur Ohio 45651
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SUMMER PROGRAMS

SUMMER MEALS: We had plenty of notice about this summer's meal program. That allowed us to fill nearly all our 350 allotted slots for the children in our area before the program even began. Meals were provided to all the children over the 9-week program. As has become the norm, we received fresh produce through the summer as well, nearly weekly. The program has really grown into an effective and well-appreciated program. We receive more produce that people are fond of and will use and in good timing for the shelf life of the produce.

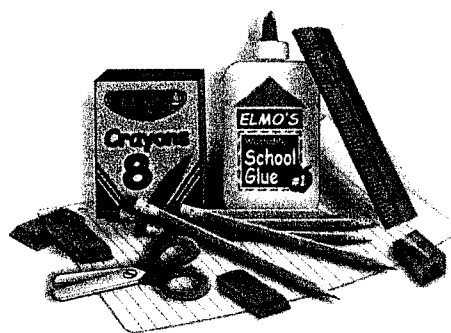
GARDEN BEHIND THE BUILDING: The OSU Extension Office used some of our space in the back of the building for a community garden.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Many of you have blessed us with oodles of wonderful school supplies that were distributed mid-August. Families are always grateful for whatever they receive, and they tend to get the basics that every student needs. We thank you for the crayons, markers, paper, notebooks, pens, pencils, folders and even hand sanitizers and tissues that have become staples. You cannot imagine what it means to folks who cannot always get to the stores when the sales start. A .50 notebook becomes a \$1.19 notebook overnight, .10 crayons turn into \$1.59 just as quickly. And for the underwear and socks donated, that price jumps from \$5.99 back to 11.79 and we have gone from a

child getting 6 pair of underwear that fit, to 3 pair that are too big or too small. You have blessed these families with your compassion and generosity!

Just to share, if you hit a good sale...we can find the space to store it until next year...or for later this school year ☺.



DONATIONS

We are gearing up for the fall donations that many of you will be providing. Most likely many of you are on the calendar already. However, if you have not had the chance, feel free to call the center and the staff will be happy to set you up with a day and time. For smaller donations that will come from the Columbus area, Lisa is coming down to the center once a month. Feel free to email her (lkeita@columbuscatholic.org) or call her at the JOIN office (614-241-2530) to set up a time to drop them off to her at JOIN (578 E Main St) and she can bring them down on her next trip. All donations are truly appreciated by the staff and the neighbors we serve. As a reminder, all clothing for boys and men are always needed. At the same time, plus size men

and women clothing are in demand as well. Again, all are welcome! As far as household items, people appreciate everything from serving dishes and utensils to decorative items to lamps and radios. We ask that any electronics work, as we do not have anyone at the center certified to fix them.

TURKEY TOSS

You bet, it is almost that time again. where we will be sending a letter to folks asking for your help to provide turkeys to our neighbors in need. We hope to make contact with our new grocery store and purchase our turkeys (or gift cards for turkeys) through them. We will be serving between 400-500 families this year and your assistance can make that happen. It has always been a great success and, though chaotic, one of the most enjoyable times we spend with neighbors and volunteers.



RURAL GOSPEL ROAD

I wanted to update you on the one project in particular that the youth provided this past summer. I previously discussed broadly the man who lives down in the hollow, miles from resources and family. His health is fragile, but he is lucky enough to have a home health nurse who truly cares and who contacted the Church of the Resurrection.

Our friend ended up with a home with a stable foundation, (no longer held up with cinder blocks) and running water in the home and a working bathroom, (also inside his home).

All the work this group does is amazing and life altering for our neighbors. However, this is the biggest change I think I have seen them make in the several years I have been lucky enough to witness their charitable works.

St. Francis Staff

Ashley Riegel: Operations Manager
Mike Fisher: Community Outreach
Jerry Stiltner: Community Outreach
Cindy Martin: Community Support
Jessica Harris: Community Support
Lisa Keita, LSW: Director



Your Support is Instrumental in Our Mission to Feed and Clothe our Sisters and Brothers in Need "...for it is in giving that we receive"

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____

Enclosed is a check made out to The St.

Francis Center in the amount of \$ _____

Return to : The St. Francis Center,
PO BOX 318

McArthur, Ohio 45651